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Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 17 December 2015

[*on the report of the Third Committee (A/70/491)*]

70/182. International cooperation against the world drug problem

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session,[1] the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction,[2] the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development,[3] the Action Plan for the Implementation of the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction[4] and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,[5]

Reaffirming also the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem[6] and the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,[7]

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[8] the provisions of the 2005 World Summit Outcome addressing the world drug problem,[9] the 2011 Political Declaration on HIV and AIDS: Intensifying Our Efforts to Eliminate HIV and AIDS[10] and other relevant United Nations resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 69/201 of 18 December 2014,

Recalling also the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of its resolution 2012/12 of 26 July 2012 on the strategy for the period 2012–2015 for the

[1] Resolution S-20/2, annex.

[2] Resolution S-20/3, annex.

[3] Resolution S-20/4 E.

[4] Resolution 54/132, annex.

[5] Resolution 68/196, annex.

[6] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2009, Supplement No. 8* (E/2009/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[7] Ibid., *2014, Supplement No. 8* (E/2014/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[8] Resolution 55/2.

[9] See resolution 60/1.

[10] Resolution 65/277, annex.

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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, welcoming the measures taken by the Office to develop a thematic and regional programme approach to its activities, and noting the progress in the implementation of such an approach,

Recalling further all resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-eighth session,[11]

Welcoming the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[12] and noting that the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals can contribute to addressing the world drug problem,

Noting the efforts of the Secretary-General to develop, within the United Nations system, an effective and comprehensive approach to transnational organized crime and the world drug problem, and reaffirming the crucial role of Member States in this regard,

Welcoming the efforts made by Member States to achieve the aims and comply with the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[13] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971[14] and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988,[15]

Emphasizing the importance both of the universality of the three above-mentioned international drug control conventions and of their implementation, noting that they are concerned with the health and welfare of humankind, and reaffirming the guiding principles enshrined therein and the system of control that they embody,

Expressing concern about the negative consequences of the world drug problem, including illicit drug markets, on the social, economic, cultural and political foundations of society,

Gravely concerned that, despite continuing increased efforts by States, relevant organizations, civil society and non-governmental organizations, the world drug problem continues to constitute a serious threat to public health and safety and the well-being of humanity, in particular children and young people and their families, and to the national security and sovereignty of States, and that it undermines socioeconomic and political stability and sustainable development,

Reaffirming that the world drug problem remains a common and shared responsibility that requires effective and increased international cooperation and demands an integrated, multidisciplinary, mutually reinforcing and balanced approach to supply and demand reduction strategies, including by addressing the socioeconomic factors that have a negative impact on the issue,

Stressing the need to take all appropriate measures, including legislative, administrative, social and educational measures, to protect children and young people against the use or abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, as defined in the relevant treaties, and to prevent the use of children and young people in the illicit

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[11] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2015, Supplement No. 8* (E/2015/28), chap. I, sect. C.

[12] Resolution 70/1.

[13] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 976, No. 14152.

[14] Ibid., vol. 1019, No. 14956.

[15] Ibid., vol. 1582, No. 27627.

production of and trafficking in such substances, and urging Governments to implement the resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs relating to this matter, including its resolutions 58/2, 58/3 and 58/5 of 17 March 2015,[11]

Taking into account that Member States have developed various practical approaches to address the world drug problem within the framework of the three international drug control conventions, and stressing the need to scientifically assess their effectiveness in achieving their goals, in particular in ensuring access to narcotic drugs for the relief of pain and suffering, while preventing their diversion or abuse, with due respect to established and international standards for scientific reasons,

Recognizing the importance of preventing and addressing drug-related youth crime, and stressing the importance of developing and implementing strategies, programmes and measures focusing on families, schools and other relevant social settings aimed at protecting children and young people from potential risk associated with the illicit sale and purchase of controlled substances and new psychoactive substances via the Internet and elsewhere, and supporting the rehabilitation and treatment of young offenders and their reintegration into society,

Stressing the importance of the focus placed by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session on the issues of the prevention of drug abuse, including through education and training on drug use disorders and sport, supporting the treatment, rehabilitation, reintegration and recovery of drug-dependent persons and other measures aimed at minimizing the public health and social consequences of drug abuse, in accordance with national legislation and the three international drug control conventions,

Stressing also the importance of enhancing international cooperation in the identification and reporting of and response to new psychoactive substances and incidents involving such substances,

Noting with grave concern the increased abuse of certain drugs and the proliferation of new substances worldwide, which are a possible threat to public health and are not controlled under the three international drug control conventions,

Noting with grave concern also the increasing sophistication of the transnational criminal groups engaged in the illicit manufacture and distribution of amphetamine-type stimulants worldwide, as well as the proliferation and diversion of chemical precursors used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances,

Recognizing the critical importance of forensic and scientific laboratory and treatment centre data and qualitative information in understanding the problem of illicit synthetic drugs and the range of products available on the illicit market,

Noting the need to promote adequate availability of internationally controlled narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances for medical and scientific purposes, in accordance with national legislation, while preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to realize the aims of the three international drug control conventions,

Expressing its appreciation for the results already achieved by the initiatives at the bilateral, regional and international levels, and recognizing that further positive results can be achieved with sustained and collective efforts through international cooperation in reducing the demand and supply of illicit drugs,

Recognizing the principal role of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and its subsidiary bodies, together with the International Narcotics Control Board, as the United Nations organs with prime responsibility for drug control matters, as well as the role of the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Development Programme, as well as the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, among other agencies, within their respective mandates, and recognizing also the need to promote and facilitate the effective implementation of and follow-up to the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,

Reaffirming that addressing the world drug problem in all its aspects requires a political commitment and collective efforts through international cooperation to significantly and measurably reduce illicit supply and demand, as an integral component of a balanced and comprehensive drug control strategy, in accordance with the principles enshrined in the Political Declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session and the measures to enhance international cooperation to counter the world drug problem,[16] including the Action Plan on International Cooperation on the Eradication of Illicit Drug Crops and on Alternative Development, also adopted at that session, and the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development,

Reaffirming equally that reducing drug abuse requires efforts to reduce demand, which must be demonstrated by sustained widespread demand reduction initiatives that are age- and gender-sensitive and integrate a comprehensive public health approach spanning the spectrum of prevention, education, early detection and intervention, treatment, care and related support services, recovery support, rehabilitation and social reintegration of drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in accordance with the Declaration on the Guiding Principles of Drug Demand Reduction, adopted by the General Assembly at its twentieth special session, and with the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem and other relevant Assembly resolutions,

Acknowledging the important contributions made by women in curbing the world drug problem, and reaffirming the commitment to ensure that drug control policies, measures and interventions take into account the specific needs and circumstances that women face in this regard, as well as the commitment to take measures to ensure that women and men benefit equally, and without any discrimination, from strategies to combat the world drug problem through their active involvement in all stages of programme development and policymaking,

Encouraging Member States to continue to address, as appropriate, the reasons why women face social and structural barriers in accessing treatment for drug abuse, as well as the causes of the higher prevalence of HIV among women who inject drugs than among their male counterparts, where applicable,

Conscious of the need to continue to raise public awareness of the risks and threats posed to all societies by the world drug problem in all its aspects,

[16] Resolutions S-20/4 A–E.

Noting the importance of addressing the world drug problem in a coordinated manner while taking into consideration balanced, comprehensive and integrated drug policies that may, where appropriate, include measures based on scientific evidence and that contribute, as appropriate, in mutual complementarity with other measures, to strengthening national, regional and global strategies in an effort to seek effective solutions and further achievements in response to current challenges, in compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in the full and effective implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,

Expressing concern that aspects of the world drug problem associated with illicit drug production can cause serious harm to the environment, including deforestation, soil erosion and degradation, loss of endemic species, contamination of the soil, groundwater and waterways and the release of greenhouse gases,

Welcoming the efforts of countries that have worked for decades to counter the world drug problem and have acquired knowledge, experience and institutional capacities that enable them to afford cooperation to other countries in application of the principle of common and shared responsibility,

Inviting Member States to consider, when developing crime prevention programmes, such issues as social inclusion, the strengthening of the social fabric, access to justice, drug-related violence, the social reintegration of offenders and access to health and education services, as well as the needs of victims of crime, and to promote a culture of lawfulness and concern for the well-being of individuals, families and communities, with a particular emphasis on children and youth,

Reaffirming that alternative development policies are an important component in enhancing development in States affected by, or in some cases at risk of, the illicit cultivation of crops used for illicit drug production and manufacture, and that they play an important role in national, regional and international development policies and in comprehensive policies of poverty reduction and cooperation,

Recognizing that international cooperation, coordination and stakeholder ownership are essential for the successful implementation and sustainability of alternative development programmes and that alternative development should be considered by all parties involved as a long-term commitment, the results of which may require time to attain,

Encouraging Member States to endeavour to ensure that measures taken at the national and local levels in response to economic and financial constraints do not have a disproportionate impact on the implementation of balanced drug demand and supply reduction policies,

Recalling the adoption, by its resolution 64/182 of 18 December 2009, of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, the decision, contained in the Political Declaration, on the high-level review of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action held by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session, the recommendation that the Economic and Social Council devote a high-level segment to a theme related to the world drug problem and the recommendation that the General Assembly hold a special session to address the world drug problem,

Recalling also its resolution 67/193 of 20 December 2012, in which it decided to convene, early in 2016, a special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem, following the high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-seventh session in March 2014 of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action,

Recalling further its decision in resolution 67/193 that the General Assembly, at its special session in 2016, would review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments,

Noting its decision to conduct the special session and its preparatory process from within existing resources,

1. *Reiterates its call upon* States to take, in a timely manner, the measures necessary to implement the actions and attain the goals and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem,[6] adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-fourth session, and to address the general challenges and priorities for action identified in the joint ministerial statement of the 2014 high-level review by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of the implementation by Member States of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action;[7]

2. *Reaffirms* that countering the world drug problem is a common and shared responsibility that must be addressed in a multilateral setting, that it requires an integrated and balanced approach and that it must be carried out in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and other provisions of international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights[17] and the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[18] on human rights and, in particular, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, for the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and for all human rights and fundamental freedoms, and on the basis of the principles of equal rights and mutual respect;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to engage in effective cooperation and practical action aimed at addressing the world drug problem on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility;

4. *Underlines* the need for Member States to cooperate closely with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the World Health Organization, the International Narcotics Control Board and other international and regional organizations, as well as the scientific community, including academia, in contributing to the scientific assessment of drug demand and supply reduction policies, drug markets and drug-related crime;

5. *Encourages* Member States to give adequate consideration to the negative effects of the world drug problem and its consequences on development and on society in general;

[17] Resolution 217 A (III).

[18] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

6. *Urges* Member States to address the relevant socioeconomic factors that relate to the world drug problem through a comprehensive, integrated and balanced approach that incorporates drug policies in a broader socioeconomic and development agenda, in compliance with the three international drug control conventions;

7. *Calls upon* Member States to actively promote the mainstreaming of a gender perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of policies and programmes related to the world drug problem;

8. *Invites* Member States to implement comprehensive drug abuse prevention strategies and measures from a perspective that considers the individual as well as the community and society as a whole, including through public health education on the dangers of drug abuse, violence prevention, rehabilitation and aftercare to reintegrate former drug users into society, as well as anticipate, detect and analyse various risks to communities associated with drug-related violence and crime;

9. *Encourages* Member States to consider alternatives to incarceration, noting that, in appropriate cases of a minor nature, States may provide, as alternatives to conviction or punishment, measures such as education, rehabilitation or social reintegration, as well as, when the offender is a drug abuser, treatment and aftercare;

10. *Invites* Member States to consider reviewing their drug sentencing policies and practices in order to facilitate collaboration between justice and public health authorities in the development and implementation of initiatives that utilize alternative measures to conviction or punishment for appropriate drug-related offences of a minor nature, subject to the legal frameworks of Member States;

11. *Undertakes* to promote bilateral, regional and international cooperation, including through intelligence-sharing and cross-border cooperation, aimed at countering the world drug problem more effectively, in particular by encouraging and supporting such cooperation by those States most directly affected by illicit crop cultivation and the illicit production, manufacture, transit, trafficking, distribution and abuse of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

12. *Reiterates* the commitment of Member States to promoting, developing, reviewing or strengthening effective, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence and covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, education, early detection and intervention, treatment, care and related support services, recovery support, rehabilitation and social reintegration efforts, as well as measures aimed at minimizing the public health and social consequences of drug abuse and at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, taking into account the specific needs of women and the particular challenges posed by high-risk drug users, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, and commits Member States to investing increased resources in ensuring access to those interventions on a non-discriminatory basis, including in detention facilities, bearing in mind that those interventions should also consider vulnerabilities that undermine human development, such as poverty and social marginalization;

13. *Recalls* target 3.5 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,[12] which aims to strengthen the prevention and treatment of substance abuse, including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol;

14. *Encourages* Member States to develop and implement, as appropriate, comprehensive policies and programmes that, by fostering social development, are aimed at the prevention of crime and violence and that address the multiple factors that contribute to marginalization, crime and victimization, in close cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including civil society, and based on scientific evidence and taking into account good practices;

15. *Reaffirms* the need for Member States to review and, if necessary, strengthen coordinated measures, enhance capacity-building to combat money-laundering arising from drug trafficking and improve judicial cooperation, where appropriate, at the national, regional and international levels, to dismantle organized criminal groups involved in drug trafficking, in order to provide for the prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution of the perpetrators of such crimes;

16. *Recalls* Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels, and recalls all of its targets;

17. *Notes* the importance of an integrated approach in drug policies, including by strengthening partnerships between the public health, development, human rights, justice and law enforcement fields and by facilitating inter-agency cooperation and communication, where appropriate;

18. *Encourages* the promotion, where appropriate, in the framework of international cooperation, of the use of law enforcement techniques, consistent with national legislation and international law, including applicable human rights obligations, in order to ensure that drug traffickers are brought to justice and that major criminal organizations are disrupted and dismantled, and the implementation of the resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs relating to this matter, including resolution 58/11 of 17 March 2015;[11]

19. *Notes with great concern* the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole, and reaffirms the commitment of all Member States to tackling those problems in the context of comprehensive, complementary and multisectoral drug demand reduction strategies, in particular such strategies targeting children, young people and their families;

20. *Also notes with great concern* the alarming rise in the incidence of HIV/AIDS and other blood-borne diseases among injecting drug users, reaffirms the commitment of all Member States to working towards the goal of universal access to comprehensive prevention programmes and treatment, care and related support services, in full compliance with the three international drug control conventions and in accordance with national legislation, taking into account all relevant General Assembly resolutions and, when applicable, the revised technical guide for countries to set targets for universal access to HIV prevention, treatment and care for injecting drug users, issued by the World Health Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, and requests the Office to carry out its mandate in this area in close cooperation with relevant organizations and programmes of the United Nations system, such as the World Health Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS;

21. *Urges* Member States, where appropriate, to develop national responses to address the issue of drug-affected driving by, inter alia, exchanging information and best practices on effective responses, including through engagement with the international scientific and legal communities;

22. *Notes with concern* that the availability and accessibility of internationally controlled drugs for medical and scientific purposes, particularly for the relief of pain and for palliative care, remains low to non-existent in many countries of the world, and highlights the need for Member States, the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the International Narcotics Control Board, in cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization, as appropriate, to address that situation by promoting measures to ensure their availability and accessibility for medical and scientific purposes, in accordance with national legislation, while simultaneously preventing their diversion, abuse and trafficking, in order to realize the aims of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments;

23. *Urges* all Member States to enact comprehensive measures aimed at stemming the abuse of prescription drugs, in particular through the establishment of awareness-raising initiatives targeting the general public and health-care providers;

24. *Acknowledges* the continuing efforts made and the progress achieved in countering the world drug problem, notes with great concern the continuing illicit production of and trafficking in opiates, the continuing illicit manufacture of and trafficking in cocaine, the increasing illicit production of and trafficking in cannabis, the ongoing global spread of the illicit manufacture of amphetamine-type stimulants and the increasing diversion of precursors, as well as the related distribution and use of illicit drugs, and stresses the need to strengthen and intensify joint efforts at the national, regional and international levels to tackle those global challenges in a more comprehensive manner, in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility, including by means of enhanced and better-coordinated technical and financial assistance;

25. *Expresses its concern* that, despite all the efforts of Member States and the international community, there has been little change in the overall global situation regarding the production, use and health consequences of illicit drugs, as reflected in the *World Drug Report 2015* of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and that further efforts are required from Member States and the international community;

26. *Stresses* that it is absolutely imperative for Member States to strengthen international efforts in order to achieve more effective results in addressing the world drug problem, including in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice and security fields;

27. *Recognizes* that it is necessary for Member States, under the three international drug control conventions and the fundamental principles of their domestic legal systems and national legislation, to consider, where appropriate:

(*a*) Regularly reviewing and assessing their drug control policies, ensuring that they are effective, comprehensive, balanced and aimed at promoting the health and well-being of individuals, families, communities and society as a whole;

(*b*) Providing, as appropriate, comprehensive, integrated drug demand reduction programmes, based on scientific evidence and covering a range of measures, including primary prevention, early intervention, treatment, care, rehabilitation, social reintegration and measures aimed at minimizing the negative

public health and social impacts of drug abuse, aimed at promoting health and social well-being among individuals, families and communities and reducing the adverse consequences of drug abuse for individuals and society as a whole;

28. *Invites* Member States to take appropriate measures so as to strengthen international cooperation and the exchange of information regarding the identification of new routes and modi operandi of organized criminal groups dedicated to the diversion or smuggling of substances frequently used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, in particular with respect to their trafficking via the Internet, and to continue to notify the International Narcotics Control Board of such information;

29. *Continues to encourage* Member States to promote, in accordance with Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 58/11, the sharing of information on the potential abuse of and trafficking in new psychoactive substances, as well as the sharing of information with regard to patterns of use, risks to public health, forensic data and best practices with respect to interventions and new and existing control measures;

30. *Recognizes* the progress made in the development of a consolidated international response to the increasing availability of new psychoactive substances that may pose risks to public health and safety, including the development of a global reference point, the early warning advisory and cooperation with Member States and relevant regional organizations in the identification and reporting of such substances, in order to increase data collection, improve collective understanding and find effective policy responses, requests the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts to enhance the capacity of Member States in this regard, and calls upon Member States to further improve the application of the international scheduling process and to provide to the Secretary-General, through the Office, and to the World Health Organization timely information, identifying a national government focal point to coordinate the provision of information on substances for effective review by the World Health Organization Expert Committee on Drug Dependence;

31. *Encourages* Member States to take independent national measures and to cooperate in judicial and law enforcement activities to tackle the manufacture and distribution of new psychoactive substances and the diversion of their precursors, including the possibility of scheduling these substances under the three international drug control conventions;

32. *Also encourages* Member States to adopt measures to strengthen public awareness of the risks and threats to and negative impacts on society posed by the abuse and production of and trafficking in illicit drugs;

33. *Recognizes*:

(*a*) That sustainable crop control strategies targeting the illicit cultivation of crops used for the production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances require international cooperation based on the principle of shared responsibility and an integrated and balanced approach, taking into account the rule of law and, where appropriate, security concerns, with full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and all human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(*b*) That such crop control strategies include alternative development and, where appropriate, preventive alternative development programmes, eradication and law enforcement measures;

(*c*) That alternative development is an important, lawful, viable and sustainable alternative to the illicit cultivation of drug crops and an effective measure for countering the world drug problem and other drug-related crime challenges, as well as a choice in favour of societies free of drug abuse, that it is one of the key components of policies and programmes for reducing illicit drug production and that it is an integral part of efforts by Governments to achieve sustainable development within their societies;

(*d*) That such crop control strategies should be in full conformity with article 14 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988[15] and appropriately coordinated and phased in accordance with national policies in order to achieve the sustainable eradication of illicit crops and the creation of alternative legal livelihood opportunities and facilitate long-term development, noting furthermore the need for Member States to undertake to increase long-term investment in such strategies, coordinated with other development measures, in order to contribute to the sustainability of social and economic development and poverty eradication in affected rural areas, taking due account of the traditional licit uses of crops where there is historical evidence of such use and giving due consideration to the protection of the environment;

(*e*) That developing countries with extensive expertise in alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, play a significant role in promoting best practices and lessons learned from alternative development programmes, and invites them to continue to share those best practices with States affected by illicit crop cultivation, with a view to using them in accordance with the national specificities of each State;

34. *Encourages* Member States, international organizations, entities and other relevant stakeholders to take due account of the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development[5] when designing and implementing alternative development, including preventive alternative development programmes, as appropriate, and welcomes the adoption by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs of its resolution 58/4 of 17 March 2015;[11]

35. *Requests* the international community, in particular the countries of destination, to continue to provide, bilaterally, multilaterally or through the competent international and regional organizations, in accordance with article 10 of the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, and on the basis of the principle of shared responsibility, urgent and sufficient technical assistance and support to the most affected transit States, in full cooperation with national authorities, in order to promote the capacities of such States to counter the flow of illicit drugs;

36. *Reiterates* the urgent need for Member States to strengthen international and regional cooperation in order to respond to the serious challenges posed by the increasing links between drug trafficking, money-laundering, corruption and other forms of organized crime, including trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, trafficking in firearms, cybercrime and, in some cases, terrorism and the financing of terrorism, and to the significant challenges faced by law enforcement and judicial authorities in responding to the ever-changing means used by transnational criminal organizations, including the corruption of State officials, to avoid detection and prosecution;

37. *Expresses deep concern* at the growing violence resulting from activities of criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking, *recognizes the increasing* links between drug trafficking, including gang-related association, and the illicit

manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms in some regions of the world and the need to prevent the spread of that problem to other regions, and urges Member States to take adequate measures, consistent with their international treaty obligations and other relevant international standards, to fully cooperate in preventing the acquisition and use of firearms and ammunition by those criminal organizations involved in drug trafficking and in combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in such firearms and ammunition;

38. *Calls upon* Member States to also consider, when developing comprehensive policies to tackle the world drug problem, measures, programmes and actions that address the needs of those affected by drug-related violence and crime;

39. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and its field offices in building capacity at the local level in the fight against transnational organized crime and drug trafficking, and encourages the Office to maintain an effective level of support for national and regional efforts in countering the world drug problem;

40. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to collaborate with relevant intergovernmental, international and regional organizations involved in addressing the world drug problem, as appropriate, in order to share best practices and scientific standards and to maximize the benefits from their unique comparative advantage, and to continue to provide technical assistance to Member States so as to enhance capacity in countering the world drug problem, including enhancing the analytical work of laboratories, by carrying out training programmes to develop indicators and instruments for the collection and analysis of accurate, reliable and comparable data on all relevant aspects of the world drug problem and, where appropriate, by supporting requesting States to enhance or develop new national indicators and instruments;

41. *Welcomes* the further collaboration, within their mandates, between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the World Health Organization, which provides leadership and guidance to further strengthen public health as part of a comprehensive and balanced approach to drug demand reduction based on scientific evidence, including by intensifying efforts to mainstream gender perspectives into all policies and programmes related to the world drug problem;

42. *Invites* Member States to invest, where necessary and taking into account specific needs and available resources, in capacity-building and quality-enhancing activities for the collection and reporting of information, to participate in joint cooperation efforts organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and by other national, regional or international organizations and bodies, aimed at the exchange of technical knowledge of experts in the area of data collection, analysis and evaluation and of practical experience in the area of drug data, and to regularly report data and information relating to all aspects of the world drug problem to the Office through the annual report questionnaires, and invites the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body of the United Nations system on drug-related matters, to strengthen the capacity of the Office to collect, analyse, use and disseminate accurate, reliable, objective and comparable data and to reflect such information in the *World Drug Report*;

43. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its efforts in supporting States to establish, upon request, operational frameworks essential for communication within and across national borders and in facilitating the exchange of information on and analysis of drug trafficking trends, with a view

to increasing knowledge about the world drug problem at the national, regional and international levels, recognizes the importance of integrating laboratories and providing scientific support to drug control frameworks and of treating quality analytical data as a primary source of information worldwide, and urges coordination with other international entities, including the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL);

44. *Requests* all Member States to provide the fullest possible financial and political support to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime by widening its donor base, as appropriate, and increasing voluntary contributions, in particular general purpose contributions, so as to enable it to continue, expand, improve and strengthen, within its mandates, its operational and technical cooperation activities, including with a view to assisting Member States with the full implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, as well as with the full implementation of relevant resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs;

45. *Expresses concern* regarding the overall financial situation of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, emphasizes the need to provide the Office with adequate, predictable and stable resources and to ensure their cost-effective utilization, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to report, within existing reporting obligations, on the financial situation of the Office and to continue to ensure that the Office has sufficient resources to carry out its mandates fully and effectively;

46. *Encourages* Member States and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to address the above-mentioned issues within the mandate of the standing open-ended intergovernmental working group on improving the governance and financial situation of the Office in order for the Office to fulfil its mandate effectively, efficiently and with the appropriate resources;

47. *Encourages* the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the principal policymaking organ of the United Nations on matters of international drug control and as the governing body of the drug programme of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the International Narcotics Control Board to strengthen their useful work on the control of precursors and other chemicals used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances;

48. *Urges* States that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and States parties to implement, as a matter of priority, all the provisions of the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961 as amended by the 1972 Protocol,[13] the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971,[14] the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto[19] and the United Nations Convention against Corruption;[20]

49. *Requests* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue to provide, in close collaboration with the International Narcotics Control Board, as may be appropriate, adequate support and technical assistance to Governments in all regions so as to enable them to implement and fully meet their obligations under

[19] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vols. 2225, 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.

[20] Ibid., vol. 2349, No. 42146.

conventions and give adequate follow-up to subsequent resolutions of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly, including for the strengthening of regulatory authorities and controls, provision of information and fulfilment of reporting requirements, and urges donors to contribute to the Office for those purposes;

50. *Takes note* of the resolutions adopted by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs at its fifty-eighth session,[11] the 2014 report of the International Narcotics Control Board[21] and the recommendations contained therein and the *World Drug Report 2015*, and calls upon Member States to strengthen international and regional cooperation and coordination to counter the threat to the international community caused by the illicit production of and trafficking in drugs, especially those in the opium group, as well as other aspects of the world drug problem, and to continue to take concerted measures within the framework of the Paris Pact[22] and other relevant regional and international initiatives and mechanisms, such as the Istanbul Process on Regional Security and Cooperation for a Secure and Stable Afghanistan,[23] also known as the "Heart of Asia" initiative, in order to strengthen cross-border cooperation and information exchange, with a view to countering drug trafficking, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other international and regional organizations;

51. *Urges* Member States to continue to actively cooperate with the International Narcotics Control Board in the exercise of its mandate, and reiterates the need to ensure that an appropriate level of resources is made available to the Board to enable it to engage with Governments to effectively monitor compliance by States parties with the three international drug control conventions;

52. *Emphasizes* the important role that civil society plays, in particular non-governmental organizations, in addressing the world drug problem, notes with appreciation their important contributions, and notes that representatives of affected populations and civil society entities, where appropriate, should be enabled to play a participatory role in the formulation and implementation of drug demand and supply reduction policy;

53. *Encourages* Member States to ensure that civil society plays a participatory role, where appropriate, through consultation in the development and implementation of drug control programmes and policies, in particular with regard to aspects of demand reduction;

54. *Encourages* the continued contribution of the meetings of Heads of National Drug Law Enforcement Agencies and of the Subcommission on Illicit Drug Traffic and Related Matters in the Near and Middle East of the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to the strengthening of regional and international cooperation, and in this regard welcomes the discussions conducted in Brussels from 22 to 25 June 2015, Algiers from 14 to 18 September 2015, San Pedro Sula, Honduras, from 5 to 9 October 2015, Bangkok from 19 to 22 October 2015 and Abu Dhabi from 8 to 12 November 2015;

55. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation in addressing the world drug problem and to seek effectiveness and comprehensiveness in the

[21] International Narcotics Control Board, document E/INCB/2014/1.

[22] See S/2003/641, annex.

[23] A/66/601-S/2011/767, annex.

strategies and policies undertaken by regional and subregional organizations and transregional initiatives;

56. *Invites* Member States, with the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, donors and other relevant international organizations, to continue to assist African States in addressing health problems and raising awareness of the dangers associated with the abuse of all drugs, and in this regard encourages the Office and the African Union Commission to continue to work together to enhance the complementarities of their activities;

57. *Reiterates its call upon* the relevant United Nations agencies and entities and other international organizations, and invites international financial institutions, including regional development banks, to mainstream efforts to counter the world drug problem into their programmes, and calls upon the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to maintain its leading role by providing relevant information and technical assistance;

58. *Notes* the ongoing discussions in some regions on how to address the world drug problem, in the light of the current situation and policies, and emphasizes the importance of a broad, transparent, inclusive and scientific evidence-based discussion among Member States, with input from other relevant stakeholders, as appropriate, in multilateral settings, on the most effective ways to counter the world drug problem consistent with the three international drug control conventions and other relevant international instruments, in order to further implement the commitments and targets set out in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem;

59. *Reaffirms* its decision, as recommended by the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, that the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem in 2016 shall have an inclusive preparatory process that includes extensive substantive consultations, allowing organs, entities and the specialized agencies of the United Nations system, relevant international and regional organizations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders to fully contribute to the process in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure and established practice

60. *Recognizes* the constructive role that parliamentarians can play in addressing the world drug problem, and encourages their participation, as appropriate, in the preparatory process and in the special session;

61. *Welcomes* Human Rights Council resolution 28/28 of 27 March 2015 on the contribution of the Council to the special session of the General Assembly on the world drug problem of 2016;[24]

62. *Reaffirms its support* for the preparations for the special session, which will review the progress in the implementation of the Political Declaration and Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem, including an assessment of the achievements and challenges in countering the world drug problem, within the framework of the three international drug control conventions and other relevant United Nations instruments, by, inter alia, addressing measures to reach an effective balance between supply and demand reduction measures and addressing all the

[24] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Seventieth Session, Supplement No. 53* (A/70/53), chap. II.

consequences of the world drug problem, including in the health, social, human rights, economic, justice and security fields;

63. *Invites* Member States to share their drug policy experiences as a contribution to the special session;

64. *Reaffirms* its resolution 69/201, in which it is stated that the Commission on Narcotic Drugs, as the central policymaking body within the United Nations system dealing with drug-related matters, shall lead that process by addressing all organizational and substantive matters in an open-ended manner, and in this regard reiterates its invitation to the President of the General Assembly to support, guide and stay involved in the process;

65. *Also reaffirms* its resolution 70/181 of 17 December 2015 on the modalities of the special session, to be held from 19 to 21 April 2016, and calls upon all Member States, organs, entities and the specialized agencies of the United Nations, other international and regional organizations, the International Narcotics Control Board, multilateral development banks, civil society, academia and all other relevant stakeholders to participate in the Commission on Narcotic Drugs preparations and in the special session at the highest and widest possible level;

66. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General,[25] and requests that he submit to the General Assembly at its seventy-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution, properly taking into account the outcome of the special session.

80th plenary meeting
17 December 2015

[25] A/70/98.